

THE RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL OF DARLINGTON

ANNUAL REPORT
OF THE
MEDICAL OFFICER
OF HEALTH



1952

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ANNUAL REPORT, 1952

DARLINGTON RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

Mr. Chairman, Councillor Miss Palmer and Gentlemen,

I have the privilege of presenting to you the 71st Annual Report upon the vital statistics and sanitary circumstances of your district for the year ending 31st December, 1952.

VITAL STATISTICS

The general death, birth, infantile mortality and maternal mortality rates given under this heading allow a comparison to be made between the health of your district during the year under review, the health during previous years and the health of the country as a whole.

Birth Rate

There was a slight reduction in the live birth rate as compared with the previous year, although in actual fact there were four more births, 210 as against 206. The rate was higher than that for England and Wales.

General Death Rate

The general death rate was lower than that of the country generally and was also below that for 1951.

Diseases of heart and arteries accounted for 55 out of a total of 117 deaths (approximately 47%). Malignant diseases accounted for 22 of the deaths as compared with 18 during the previous year (i.e. 18.8% of the total deaths).

It will be noted that 10 deaths were due to accidents. Eight of these were flying accidents.

Maternal Mortality

There were no maternal deaths.

Infantile Mortality

I regret to report an increase in the number of infant deaths as compared with the previous year from eight in 1951 to 10 in 1952. Five were due to congenital malformations and one to a congenital disease.

Infectious Disease

Of the total of 116 notifications, over 64% were attributed to measles.

Two deaths occurred, one due to meningococcal infection and one due to poliomyelitis, the only notification of the latter disease received during the year.

No cases of enteric fever or food poisoning occurred. 15 notifications of dysentery were received, all from a residential mental colony.

Diphtheria

Although there were no cases of diphtheria during the year under review it must not be forgotten that the elimination of this disease is conditional upon maintenance of an adequate level of immunisation. The danger exists that as a result of the decline in the incidence, parents of young children may fail to realise that diphtheria is still a deadly threat and that to maintain this low incidence it is necessary that children be immunised before the age of one year and re-immunised before entering school.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES

This part of your report was prepared by your Surveyor and Sanitary Inspector.

Housing

It is noted in the report that the progress in building new Council houses during 1951 was not maintained, only two houses being completed during the year.

The number of applications from people in unsatisfactory homes is still high and reflects the need for a policy of reconditioning and improvements.

Housing Survey

Good progress was made during the year on the housing survey.

Refuse Collection

I am pleased to see that towards the end of the year refuse was collected weekly instead as hitherto at fortnightly intervals.

Sewerage and Sewage Disposal

With regard to Aycliffe, although no work was done in 1952, tenders have been accepted and work will proceed on part of the scheme during 1953.

I am pleased to say that in the other villages further progress was made in connection with the preparation and consideration of schemes.

I wish to express to the Council my appreciation for their continued support and to convey my grateful thanks to the Clerk of the Council, to the Surveyor and his staff for their help and co-operation during the year.

I am, Councillor Miss Palmer and Gentlemen,
Your obedient servant,

M. W. Rodgers.

M.B., CH.B., B.A.O., D.P.H.

Medical Officer of Health.

SECTION A.

PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICERS AND STAFF OF THE LOCAL AUTHORITY

Medical Officer of Health

M. W. RODGERS, M.B., CH.B., B.A.O., D.P.H.

Sanitary Inspector and Surveyor

J. D. COLLINS, M.R.S.I., M.S.I.A.,
Certified Meat and Food Inspector.

Additional Sanitary Inspector

J. F. ELLISON, C.R.S.I., M.S.I.A.
Certified Meat and Food Inspector.

Engineering Assistants

J. CUTHBERTSON E. STEELE

Sewage Works Manager

J. BLACK

Building Inspector

A. G. OXBOROUGH

Chief Clerk and General Assistant

F. H. HURWORTH

Clerical Assistant

G. V. WORTHY

(Appointed February 1952).

Pupil Sanitary Inspectors

J. CLOUGH

Qualified Sanitary Inspector.

(Returned from National Service, 1st August, 1952)

P. J. JEMMESON

(Called for National Service, October, 1952).

Shorthand Typists

MRS. P. LAMBELL MISS M. H. HARRISON

SECTION B.

GENERAL STATISTICS

Area of Rural District in acres	45,414
Resident population (including armed forces stationed in the area)	13,070
Total number of houses at 31st December, 1952, (including 15 squatters' huts and 117 R.A.F. Married Quarters)	3,737
Number of inhabited houses (excluding R.A.F. Married Quarters at 1st April, 1952)	3,298
Rateable value at 1st April, 1952	£94,968
Sum represented by a penny rate	£395 14s. 0d.
General Rate (excluding additional items and special rates in certain parishes) made in respect of the financial year ending 31st March, 1953 ..	16s. 6d.

Social Conditions and Employment

The area is primarily an agricultural one with scattered sand and gravel quarries.

Since the adaptation of the Old Ordnance Factory at Aycliffe into a Trading Estate in 1946, and with the erection of the new town of Newton Aycliffe, the character of the northern part of the District is changing.

In the southern part of the area the continued use of the Royal Air Force Station at Middleton-St.-George as a permanent establishment and the erection of Married Quarters, together with the new Brickworks at Neasham and Hurworth, does not appear to have affected the agricultural character of this part of the area.

Newton Aycliffe

The number of new houses completed by the Aycliffe Development Corporation in the new town of Newton Aycliffe during 1952 was more than had been completed during the previous four years since the building of the town started. 428 houses of various types, catering for the different income groups and including one house built privately, were completed during the year, thus increasing the total of new houses in the town to 770 and the population to 2,500 approximately.

More than half the houses completed during the year were built by the Corporation's own Direct Labour Department which has been established by the Corporation to offset the lack of competition among private contractors for building contracts in the new town. With the build-up of the Department's labour strength in 1952 to 500 men as authorised by the Ministry, it is expected that a programme of 500 completed houses a year will be maintained in the future.

Site development works and extensions to the main surface water and foul sewers continue to push well ahead of building, and a start has been made on the construction of Central Avenue which, with St. Cuthbert's Way, will provide the main road through the town and the Aycliffe Trading Estate adjoining, and will, when completed, provide the first direct link between the Trading Estate and the New Town. The construction of Central Avenue will also open up the Town Centre site for development, and a start on this should be made in 1953.

Eleven shops catering for the day to day needs of the local population were completed during the year in the Ward "A" Centre of the town, and a contract will be let early in the new year for the erection of four similar shops in the Ward "B" Centre.

The new three-form entry infants' school on the Sugar Hill site is now nearing completion and is expected to be opened early in 1953. In the meanwhile children between the ages of five and eight years continue to attend a temporary school in part of a block of flats in the Town, the accommodation of which is now seriously over-taxed in view of the rapid growth of the child population. Plans are well advanced to start the building of a new three-form entry junior school on the same site as the infants' school early in the coming year, and negotiations are proceeding between the County Education Committee and the Corporation for a site for a secondary modern school which it is hoped to start building as part of the Education Committee's 1953/54 programme.

The County Council have agreed to purchase from the Corporation a site adjoining St. Cuthbert's Way for a fire station and a further site adjoining Shasto Way for a Deaf and Dumb Hostel.

The negotiations referred to in the last report as having been conducted by the Corporation with the Nuffield Foundation and the various Health Authorities to build a permanent health services building, including accommodation for an industrial health service, in the New Town, came to naught. The County Council are now proposing to provide the Health Centre themselves and have provisionally agreed with the Corporation a site for the building.

On the Representation of the Corporation, the County Council made an Order under Section 141 of the Local Government Act, 1933, which was subsequently confirmed by the Ministry of Housing and Local Government, for extending the boundaries of the Rural District and of the Great Aycliffe Parish to include the whole of the designated site of the New Town. A supplementary Order created the New Town a separate Ward of the Parish with direct representation on both the Rural and Parish Councils.

We are indebted to the Secretary of Newton Aycliffe Corporation for the above report.

Aycliffe Trading Estate

The number of tenants now operating on the Estate is 84, affording employment for approximately 3,000 people of whom 1,800 are males. This figure takes no account of the number of Durham County Police who are stationed on the Estate.

Some of the existing firms have taken over additional premises and four firms have left the Estate.

Considerable progress has been made by Messrs. Bakelite Limited on the erection of their new premises adjacent to the Trading Estate for the manufacture of vinyl resin. It is hoped that this project will be completed next year offering additional employment for approximately 100 men.

A scheme for extending the new canteen at the north-east gate of the Trading Estate is at present under way.

The Estate Company has continued the removal of refuse from the factories and as most of the low lying land has been almost levelled, negotiations are in progress with the Council for the use of one of their refuse tips.

No. 205 Advanced Flying School, Middleton-St.-George

During the year eight houses were completed and occupied making a total of 117 married quarters (including 13 temporary Officers married quarters). The number of houses in course of erection is 10 married quarters.

Employment

Employment in the rural district has remained good throughout the year. There has been no unemployment amongst those in agriculture ; on the contrary there has been a steady demand for experienced hands. In the building industry there has been a shortage of joiners, bricklayers and plasterers, particularly in the Aycliffe area. Industrial establishments on the North East Trading Estate at Aycliffe have continued to provide employment for men and women, many of whom travel from the Shildon, Bishop Auckland and Spennymoor areas.

The present prospect is that employment will remain good throughout the district.

VITAL STATISTICS

Births and Birth Rate

The number of live births in the district was 210 as against 206 the previous year.

			Male	Female	Total
Legitimate	..	..	109	98	207
Illegitimate	..	..	2	1	3
					210

Live Birth Rate per 1,000 of the population—16.07.

The rate for England and Wales was—15.3.

Still Births			Male	Female	Total
Legitimate	..	..	4	1	5
Illegitimate	..	..	—	—	—
					5

Still Birth Rate per 1,000 of the population—0.38.

The Still Birth Rate per 1,000 of the estimated population for England and Wales was 0.35

The Still Birth Rate per 1,000 total births (live and still) 23.25.

The Still Birth Rate per 1,000 total births for England and Wales—22.6.

The total Birth Rate per 1,000 of the population is 16.45.

Maternal Mortality Nil.

Infantile Mortality

Deaths of infants under 1 year—10.

		Male	Female	Total
Legitimate	5	4
Illegitimate	1	—
				10

Infantile Mortality Rate

Death rate of legitimate infants under 1 year per 1,000 legitimate live births—43.48.

Death rate of illegitimate infants per 1,000 illegitimate live births—333.3.

Death rate of all infants under 1 year per 1,000 live births—47.62.

Analysis of Causes of Deaths in two age groups under 1 month (neo-natal deaths) and 1 month to 1 year

Neo-Natal Deaths		Age Group 1 month to 1 year	
Congenital Malformations	2	Congenital Malformations	3
Erythroblastosis	..	Broncho Pneumonia	1
	1	Meningococcal Septicaemia	1
		Pericarditis	..
		Miliary Tuberculosis	1
		—	—
	3		7
		—	—

3 of the 10 deaths (33½%) were neo-natal.

Deaths and Death Rate

Male Female Total
68 49 117

Death rate per 1,000 of the population—8.95.

Rate for England and Wales—11.3.

Table Showing Causes of Death

				Male	Female
Tuberculosis (Respiratory)	..	..	..	—	1
Tuberculosis (Other)	..	..	..	1	—
Syphilitic Disease	..	..	..	1	—
Diphtheria	..	..	..	—	—
Whooping Cough	..	..	..	—	—
Meningococcal Infections	..	..	..	1	—
Acute Poliomyelitis	..	..	..	1	—
Measles	..	..	..	—	—
Other Infective and Parasitic Diseases	..	..	..	—	—
Malignant Neoplasm Stomach	..	..	..	1	1
Malignant Neoplasm Lung	..	..	..	1	—
Malignant Neoplasm Breast	..	..	..	—	3
Malignant Neoplasm Uterus	..	..	..	—	1
Other Malignant and Lymphatic Neoplasms	..	..	..	7	8
Leukaemia, Aleukaemia	..	..	..	—	—
Diabetes	..	..	..	—	1
Vascular lesions of nervous system	..	..	..	7	7
Coronary disease, Angina	..	..	..	8	6
Hypertension with heart disease	..	..	..	2	2
Other heart disease	..	..	..	6	10
Other circulatory disease	..	..	..	6	1
Influenza	..	..	..	—	—
Pneumonia	..	..	..	4	2
Bronchitis	..	..	..	—	1
Other diseases of respiratory system	..	..	..	2	—
Ulcer of Stomach and Duodenum	..	..	..	3	—
Gastritis, Enteritis and Diarrhoea	..	..	..	—	—
Nephritis and Nephrosis	..	..	..	—	1
Hyperplasia of Prostate	..	..	..	—	—
Pregnancy, Child Birth and Abortion	..	..	..	—	—
Congenital malformations	..	..	..	3	2
Other defined and ill defined diseases	..	..	..	4	2
Motor Vehicle Accidents	..	..	..	—	—
All other Accidents	..	..	..	10	—
Suicide	..	..	..	—	—
Homicide and operations of war	..	..	..	—	—
All causes			Totals	..	68 49

Age Groups	Under 1	1-10	11-20	21-30	31-40	41-50	51-60	61-70	71-80	81-90	Over 90
Deaths	10	3	3	5	2	6	12	24	33	18	1

CANCER

The following table gives the deaths from cancer in age groups and localisation.

Localisation	Age in years										Totals	
	1-25		26-45		46-65		66-75		76 upwards			
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
Stomach	1	—	—	—	1	1	1	(2)
Lung	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	(1)
Breast	—	—	2	—	—	—	3	(3)
Uterus	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	(1)
Bowels	—	—	—	2	1	1	3	(4)
Other Sites	—	—	4	3	1	2	4	7
	—	—	—	—	1	1	6	5	3	3	9	13
												(22)

TABLE OF BIRTH AND DEATH RATES FOR RECENT YEARS
AS COMPARED WITH ENGLAND AND WALES

Estimated Population of Darlington R.D.C.	Years	GENERAL DEATH RATE			INFANTILE MORTALITY RATE			LIVE BIRTH RATE		
		Darlington R.D.C.		England and Wales Rate	Darlington R.D.C.		England and Wales Rate	Darlington R.D.C.		England and Wales Rate
		No. of Deaths	Rate		No. of Deaths	Rate		No. of Births	Rate	
9,480	1940	120	13.08	14.3	10	73.77	55	151	15.92	14.6
9,570	1941	106	11.07	12.9	11	76.2	59	143	14.9	14.2
9,570	1942	95	10.06	11.6	2	12.9	49	154	16.32	14
9,189	1943	111	12.07	12.1	9	51.84	49	154	16.75	16.5
9,216	1944	111	12.04	11.6	9	45	46	196	21.26	17.6
8,910	1945	122	13.69	11.4	7	45	46	155	17.39	16.1
9,382	1946	114	12.15	11.5	7	46	43	152	16.20	19.1
9,512	1947	115	12.09	12	8	41.88	41	191	20.08	20.5
10,030	1948	95	9.47	10.8	6	34.48	34	174	17.35	17.9
10,270	1949	98	9.5	11.7	7	37.6	32	186	18.1	16.7
10,650	1950	146	13.7	11.6	10	54.35	29.8	184	17.28	15.8
12,040	1951	127	10.55	12.5	8	38.83	29.6	206	17.1	15.5
13,070	1952	117	8.95	11.3	10	47.62	27.6	210	16.07	15.3

Birth Rates, Death Rates, Analysis of Mortality, Maternal Mortality
and Case Rates for Infectious Disease, 1952

		Darlington R.D.C.	England and Wales
Rate per 1,000 Home pop.			
Births :—			
Live	.. .. ..	16.07	15.3
Still	.. .. ..	( 0.38 (23.25 (a)	(0.35 (22.6 (a)
Deaths :—			
All causes	.. ..	8.95	11.3
Typhoid and Para-			
Typhoid	.. ..	—	0.00
Whooping Cough	.. ..	—	0.00
Diphtheria	.. ..	—	0.00
Tuberculosis	.. ..	0.15	0.24
Influenza	.. ..	—	0.04
Acute Poliomyelitis and			
Polio Encephalitis	.. ..	0.08	0.01
Small Pox	.. ..	—	0.00
Pneumonia	.. ..	0.46	0.47
NOTIFICATIONS (CORRECTED):			
Typhoid Fever	.. ..	—	0.00
Para-Typhoid Fever	.. ..	—	0.02
Meningococcal Infection		—	0.03
Scarlet Fever	.. ..	0.69	1.53
Whooping Cough	.. ..	0.84	2.61
Diphtheria	.. ..	—	0.01
Erysipelas	.. ..	—	0.14
Small Pox	.. ..	—	0.00
Measles	.. .. ..	5.81	8.86
Pneumonia		0.23	0.72
Poliomyelitis (including			
Polioencephalitis)			
Paralytic	.. ..	0.08	0.06
Non-Paralytic	.. ..	—	0.03
Food Poisoning	.. ..	—	0.13
Puerperal Pyrexia	.. ..	—	17.87 (a)
Rate per 1,000 live births			
Deaths under 1 year of age		47.62	27.6
Deaths from Diarrhoea and			
Enteritis under 2 years	.. ..	—	1.1

(a) per 1,000 total births.

	Rate per 1,000 Total Births (i.e. live and still)		No. of Deaths
	Darlington R.D.C.	England and Wales	
Sepsis of pregnancy, child-birth and the puerperium	—	0.09	61
Abortion with toxæmia ..	—	0.02	13
Other toxæmias of pregnancy and the puerperium	—	0.21	147
Haemorrhage of pregnancy and childbirth	—	0.09	59
Abortion without mention of sepsis or toxæmia ..	—	0.04	31
Abortion with sepsis ..	—	0.07	47
Other complications of pregnancy, childbirth and the puerperium	—	0.20	138

A dash (—) signifies that there were no deaths.

The total number of cases admitted to Isolation Hospital was 5 as against 2 for 1951.

Infectious Disease			Suspected	Confirmed
Scarlet Fever .. ..	..	..	4	3
Acute Poliomyelitis .. ..	..	..	1	1

LABORATORY WORK

Bacteriological Examinations

FAECES

No. of Specimens	Enteric Positive	Dysentery Positive	Food Poisoning Positive
5	—	—	—

SWABS (THROAT, NASAL, ETC.).

No. of Specimens	Diphtheria Positive	Haemolytic Strep. Positive	Other Organisms Positive
14	1	7	4

SPUTUM

No. of Specimens	Tubercle Positive
1	—

PUS

No. of Specimens	Organisms Positive
1	1

MISCELLANEOUS SWABS

No. of Specimens	Organisms Positive
1	—

NOTIFIABLE DISEASES

Table of cases as notified set out in age groups.

	At all ages	Under 1		1-2		3-4		5-9		10-14		15-24		25 and over		Age unknown		Total Deaths		Hospital		Home	
		M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
Scarlet Fever	10	—	—	1	—	—	—	2	3	2	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	4	6
Diphtheria	0	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Erysipelas	0	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Puerperal Pyrexia	0	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Ophthalmia	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Neonatorum	0	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Dysentery	15	—	—	0	—	—	—	2	4	1	4	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1
Cerebro-Spinal Fever	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Poliomyelitis	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
(a) Paralytic	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
(b) Non-Paralytic	0	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Pneumonia (Primary and Influ.)	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3
Enteric Fever (incl. Paratyphoid)	0	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Measles	75	1	1	4	7	9	9	20	21	2	1	—	—	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	75
Whooping Cough	—	11	1	1	1	1	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	11
Food Poisoning	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
	116	2	1	6	8	13	15	23	28	3	3	2	1	4	6	1	—	—	—	1	20	96	

(a) these cases occurred in an Institution.

NOTIFIABLE DISEASES

Table of cases as notified after correction set out in age groups.

	At all ages	Under 1 M	Under 1 F	1-2 M	1-2 F	3-4 M	3-4 F	5-9 M	5-9 F	10-14 M	10-14 F	15-24 M	15-24 F	25 and over M	25 and over F	Age unknown M	Age unknown F	Total Deaths	Hospital	Home
Scarlet Fever	9	—	—	1	—	—	—	1	—	3	2	1	—	—	—	—	—	3	6	—
Diphtheria	0	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Erysipelas	0	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Puerperal Pyrexia	0	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Ophthalmia	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Neonatorum	0	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Dysentery	15	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	4	1	4	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Cerebro-Spinal Fever	0	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Poliomyelitis :	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
(a) Paralytic	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
(b) Non-Paralytic	0	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Pneumonia (Primary and Influenza).	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	2	—	—	—	3
Enteric Fever (Includ. Paratyphoid)	0	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Measles	76	1	1	4	7	9	9	20	22	—	—	—	—	1	—	1	—	—	1	75
Whooping Cough	11	1	—	1	1	2	2	2	1	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	11
Food Poisoning	0	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	115	2	1	6	8	13	15	23	28	3	3	2	1	3	6	1	—	1	20	95

116 cases of infectious diseases were notified as against 120 notifications in 1951.

(a) these cases occurred in an Institution.

DIPHTHERIA IMMUNISATION

Number of Persons immunised for which records were received during the year ending 31st December, 1952.

Primary Immunisations			Reinforcing injections
Age at date of final injection.			
Under 5	5—14	Total.	46
140	20	160	

Diphtheria Notifications and Deaths, 1952

For the third year in succession no notifications were received and no deaths occurred.

TUBERCULOSIS

New cases and Mortality during 1952 :—

Age Groups	New Cases				Deaths			
	Respiratory		Non-Respiratory		Respiratory		Non-Respiratory	
	male	female	male	female	male	female	male	female
Under 1 ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—
1—5 ..	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
6—10 ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
11—15 ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
16—20 ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
21—25 ..	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
26—35 ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
36—45 ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
46—55 ..	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
56—65 ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
66 and over ..	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—
Age unknown ..	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
Total ..	2	3	—	—	—	1	1	—
	5		0		1		1	

The total number of new cases for 1952 was 5 (pulmonary) against a total of 1 case of Tuberculosis (pulmonary) for the year 1951.

Two deaths occurred during 1952 (1 pulmonary, 1 non-pulmonary) as against 1 death (pulmonary) registered the previous year.

Table showing new cases and Mortality during the past 10 years

Year	New Cases				Mortality			
	Respiratory male female		Non-Respira'y male female		Respiratory male female		Non-Respira'y male female	
1943 ..	1	4	1	1	2	1	—	—
1944 ..	—	2	—	—	1	2	—	1
1945 ..	1	2	1	2	1	1	—	—
1946 ..	1	3	1	—	1	—	1	—
1947 ..	2	2	1	—	1	1	—	1
1948 ..	4	3	2	1	—	1	—	—
1949 ..	4	2	—	—	2	2	—	1
1950 ..	1	2	—	—	3	1	—	—
1951 ..	—	1	—	—	1	—	—	—
1952 ..	2	3	—	—	—	1	1	—

Number of Cases on register

Year	Pulmonary			Non-Pulmonary		
	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total
1949	13	9	22	6	4	10
1950	11	9	20	6	4	10
1951	11	10	21	6	5	11
1952	12	16	28	5	5	10

Food Poisoning Outbreaks

One case of food poisoning was notified during the year, but the diagnosis was not confirmed.

- (a) Total No. of outbreaks .. 1
- (b) No. of Cases 1
- (c) No. of deaths —
- (d) Organism responsible —
- (e) Food involved Sild

National Assistance Act, 1948, Section 47

No action was taken under this section.

HEALTH SERVICES ADMINISTERED BY THE LOCAL HEALTH AUTHORITY (DURHAM COUNTY COUNCIL) IN YOUR AREA

Residential Hostel Accommodation

The County Council provide hostel accommodation for aged, infirm and handicapped persons, but the accommodation at present is limited. Application for assistance should be made to the County Medical Officer, Health Department, Shire Hall, Durham. Telephone No. Durham 980, Extension 133.

Home Nursing

A Home Nursing Service is provided by the County Council, and any requests for a district nurse should be made to the nurses in your area or to the Superintendent of the County Nursing Association, Hallgarth House, Hallgarth Street, Durham. Telephone No. Durham 1640.

Vaccination and Immunisation

- (a) Vaccination against smallpox may be obtained free of charge on application to any medical practitioner who has agreed to give service within the National Health Service Scheme.
- (b) Immunisation against diphtheria may be carried out on application to maternity and child welfare centres or to any general practitioner operating under the National Health Service Act, free of charge.

Domiciliary Midwifery Service

Names and addresses of the midwives available may be obtained from the child welfare centres, medical practitioners or the County Medical Officer, Health Department, Shire Hall, Durham. Telephone No. Durham 980, Extension 51.

Domestic Help

Domestic helps are provided by the County Council where necessary in cases of sickness, childbirth, infirmity or other household emergencies. A charge for the service is made in accordance with income scales. Application should be made through the district health visitors or the County Medical Officer, Health Department, Shire Hall, Durham. Telephone No. Durham 1616.

Health Visitors

This service is maintained by the County Council and the health visitor is the connecting link between the home and the health activities of the County Council. Details of the health visitors serving the area may be obtained from the County Medical Officer, Shire Hall, Durham. Telephone No. Durham 980, Extension 305.

Ambulance Service

Ambulance transport may be obtained on application to the nearest control, Telephone No. Darlington 3333. Except in cases of emergency, applications should be made by medical practitioners, hospitals, midwives, or dentists. Ambulances can be booked in advance on the production of a certificate from a medical practitioner certifying the need for transport.

Prevention of Illness, Care and After-Care

Facilities are available for the assistance of sick persons in any manner which may be necessary, e.g. the provision of extra nourishment, sick room requisites, invalid chairs, etc. Advice may be obtained on application to the County Medical Officer, Health Department, Shire Hall, Durham, Telephone No. Durham 980, Extension 35. A charge may be made for this service under certain circumstances according to income scale.

Mental Health Services.

A comprehensive scheme is provided by the County Council. Details and assistance can be obtained on application to the County Medical Officer, Shire Hall, Durham, Telephone No. Durham 980. Extension 237 or to the Duly Authorised Officer, Telephone No. Stockton 66911.

CARE OF MOTHERS AND YOUNG CHILDREN

Arrangements exist for mothers and children under 5 years to attend Darlington Borough Clinics where this is more convenient. County clinics to serve certain areas of the Rural District are held as shown in the following table. Advice can also be obtained on application to the County Medical Officer, 42 Old Elvet, Durham, Telephone No. Durham 980, Extension 301.

Address of Centre	Sessions	
Sedgefield Surveyor's Office <i>Tel. Sedgefield 244</i>	Ante-natal Clinic Child Welfare Centre	Alternate Tuesdays.
Shildon Friends Meeting House, Byerley Road.	Ante-natal Clinic Child Welfare Centre	Alternate Wednesdays. Alternate Friday mornings
	Ultra-Violet Ray Clinic	Alternate Wednesdays. Monday mornings weekly. Friday afternoons weekly.
Chilton Red Cross Station	Ante-natal Clinic Child Welfare Centre	Alternate Wednesday afternoons. Alternate Wednesday mornings.
Middleton-St.-George The Parochial Hall	Ante-natal Clinic Child Welfare Centre	Alternate Monday afternoons.

Maternity Homes and Hospitals

These are controlled by the Regional Hospital Board but applications for admission should be made to the medical officers at the maternity and child welfare centres shown in the previous table.

Accommodation for unmarried mothers is available at maternity homes provided by the Regional Hospital Board, and the Durham Diocesan Moral Welfare Association also maintain homes for unmarried mothers and their babies. Application for admission should be made to the medical officers at the child welfare centres.

Homeless children can be admitted to residential nurseries or cottage homes administered by the County Council of Durham.

Convalescent Home

The E.F. Peile County Convalescent Home, Shotley Bridge (Tel. No. Shotley Bridge 27) is controlled by the County Council of Durham and admits nursing mothers and their babies and children under five years of age. Applications for admission should be made at the child welfare centres.

Clinics and Welfare Centres held in the County Borough of Darlington which are attended by Mothers from the Rural District

Maternity and Child Welfare Centres—

Corporation Road Methodist Schoolroom	—Monday 10 a.m. to 12 noon. 2 p.m. to 4 p.m.
Thompson Street, Methodist Schoolroom, North Road	—Monday 10 a.m. to 12 noon. 2 p.m. to 4 p.m.
Albert Road—Schoolhouse, Albert Road	—Tuesday 10 a.m. to 12 noon. 2 p.m. to 4 p.m.
Eastbourne Nursery School, Belgrave Street	—Tuesday 2 p.m. to 4 p.m. Wednesday 10 a.m. to 12 noon. 2 p.m. to 4 p.m.
Coniscliffe Road Methodist Schoolroom, Coniscliffe Road	—Thursday 2 p.m. to 4 p.m.
Cockerton Methodist Schoolroom, The Green, Cockerton	—Friday 10 a.m. to 12 noon. 2 p.m. to 4 p.m.
Haughton-le-Skerne Church Hall	—Friday 2 p.m. to 4 p.m.

Ante-natal Clinics

Eastbourne Nursery School, Belgrave Street.	—Thursday 2 p.m. to 4 p.m.
Albert Road—Schoolhouse, Albert Road	—Friday 2 p.m. to 4 p.m.

Services administered by the Regional Hospital Board

Tuberculosis Service—

Clinics are held at Greenbank Maternity Hospital as follows—

MALE AND FEMALE	—Monday mornings, 9-30 a.m. to 11 a.m.
MALE	—Thursday mornings, 9-30 a.m. to 11 a.m.
FEMALE	—Friday mornings, 9-30 a.m. to 11 a.m. <i>(by appointment only)</i>

There are In-patient beds at Darlington Memorial Hospital (Hundens Unit) available but most cases requiring remedial sanatorium treatment are sent to Poole Sanatorium, or other Sanatoria in the County.

Special Treatment Service

MALE Tuesday, 10 a.m. to 12 noon.
 Friday, 4 p.m. to 7 p.m.

FEMALE Monday and Friday from 2 p.m. to 4 p.m.
(Clinics are held at Greenbank Maternity Hospital).

Infectious Disease

There are 23 beds at Hundens Unit, Hundens Lane, Darlington.

General Hospital Accommodation

There are 307 beds at Darlington Memorial Hospital and Hundens Unit.

Chronic Sick Accommodation

There are 114 chronic sick beds at East Haven (Hospital Section), Yarm Road, Darlington.

Maternity Accommodation

There are 53 beds at Greenbank Maternity Hospital.

Sanatoria

There are no sanatoria in the Darlington Group, but all cases requiring treatment will be dealt with in allocated beds as is possible, through the chest clinics detailed previously.

SECTION C.

WATER SUPPLY, SEWERAGE, AND SEWAGE DISPOSAL AND GENERAL SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES

Water

1. There is a piped water supply to the major part of the Rural District by public mains owned by the following statutory undertakers :—

Tees Valley Water Board.

Durham County Water Board.

Darlington Corporation.

Darlington Rural District Council.

The Council obtains bulk supplies from the Tees Valley Water Board and Darlington Corporation, water from the former authority being distributed through the Darlington Rural District Council mains in the Parishes of Brafferton, Coatham Mundeville, part of Aycliffe and Whessoe and from the latter in part of the parish of Barmpton.

The majority of the houses not connected to the public mains are isolated premises served by private sources of supply (i.e. springs, or wells). The parishes of Denton and Sockburn are served by private estate supplies from springs and wells. The hamlet of Low Dinsdale is served by private wells and springs.

At Sadberge where the water is supplied by the Tees Valley Water Board, the quantity is rather limited owing to the size of the mains and lack of pressure therein.

In the parishes of Aycliffe, Brafferton, Middleton-St.-George and Neasham, the pressure of water and the size of mains are, I understand, such that it is not practical to make extensions which are needed in the parish or in adjacent parishes.

It will be noted in the appropriate table that some unsatisfactory results of bacteriological examinations of water from Newton Aycliffe were received. With these exceptions, the quality throughout the district appears to be satisfactory.

2. Samples of water for bacteriological examination have been taken as follows :—

No.	Date	Place	Supply	Reason taken	Observations
1	25/9/52	19 Baliol Rd., Newton Aycliffe	D.C.W.B.	Sample taken by Sanitary Inspector from Sedgefield R.D.C. as check sample.	Class 2. Satisfactory
2	25/9/52	10 Clarence Corner, Newton Aycliffe	D.C.W.B.	Ditto	Class 3. Suspicious. Evidence of faecal con- tamination.

No.	Date	Place	Supply	Reason taken	Observations
3	7/10/52	19 Baliol Rd., Newton Aycliffe	D.C.W.B.	On information from adjacent Authority (Sedgefield R.D.C.) regard- ing complaints on the question of purity of water	Very un- satisfactory. Water not suitable for drinking purposes.
4	7/10/52	10 Clarence Corner, New- ton Aycliffe	D.C.W.B.	Ditto	Ditto
5	20/10/52	19 Baliol Rd., Newton Aycliffe	D.C.W.B.	Check sample on previous bad report	Satisfactory
6	20/10/52	10 Clarence Corner, New- ton Aycliffe	D.C.W.B.	Ditto	Ditto
7	22/10/52	19 Baliol Rd., Newton Aycliffe	D.C.W.B.	Ditto	Ditto
8	22/10/52	10 Clarence Corner, New- ton Aycliffe	D.C.W.B.	Ditto	Ditto
9	22/10/52	Woodbine Cottage, Heighington	D.C.W.B.	Ditto	Ditto
10	22/10/52	Southfield Farm, Great Stainton	D.C.W.B.	Ditto	Ditto
11	27/10/52	19 Baliol Rd., Newton Aycliffe	D.C.W.B.	Ditto	Ditto
12	27/10/52	10 Clarence Corner, New- ton Aycliffe	D.C.W.B.	Ditto	Ditto
13	27/10/52	Woodbine Cottage, Heighington	D.C.W.B.	Ditto	Ditto
14	27/10/52	Southfield Farm, Great Stainton.	D.C.W.B.	Ditto	Ditto
15	3/11/52	19 Baliol Rd., Newton Aycliffe	D.C.W.B.	Ditto	Ditto
16	3/11/52	Woodbine Cottage, Heighington	D.C.W.B.	Ditto	Ditto
17	3/11/52	Southfield Farm, Great Stainton.	D.C.W.B.	Ditto	Ditto
18	10/11/52	10 Clarence Corner, New- ton Aycliffe	D.C.W.B.	Ditto	Ditto
19	10/11/52	Woodbine Cottage, Heighington	D.C.W.B.	Ditto	Ditto
20	17/11/52	10 Clarence Corner, New- ton Aycliffe	D.C.W.B.	Ditto	Ditto
21	17/11/52	Woodbine Cottage, Heighington	D.C.W.B.	Ditto	Ditto
22	3/12/52	10 Clarence Corner, New- ton Aycliffe	D.C.W.B.	Ditto	Ditto

No.	Date	Place	Supply	Reason taken	Observations
23	3/12/52	Woodbine Cottage, Heighington	D.C.W.B.	Check sample on previous bad report	Satisfactory
24	8/12/52	10 Clarence Corner, Newton Aycliffe	D.C.W.B.	Ditto	Ditto
25	13/2/52	Primrose Hall Farm, Heighington	Well	Complaint from tenant	Unsatisfactory.
26	27/3/52	Oathill Farm, Great Stainton	Well	Request from new Owner	Ditto
27	17/7/52	The Ashes Cottage, Low Dinsdale	Spring	Check sample Request from Owner	Ditto
28	13/8/52	The Ashes Cottage, Low Dinsdale	Spring	Ditto	Ditto

On receipt of samples 1—4, notices were issued to the public recommending the advisability to boil all water for human consumption (11th October, 1952). The Chief Medical Officer, Ministry of Health, London, the Principal Medical Officer, Newcastle Region, and the County Medical Officer were fully informed of all the circumstances and of our action in the matter.

With regard to sample No. 25 all remedial measures were taken, the supply was later found to be inadequate and as a result, mains supply was afforded.

Samples Nos. 27—28 were taken at an unoccupied agricultural cottage after improvement works had been carried out to the collecting chamber. The owner has been advised not to allow the cottage to be re-occupied until some alternative means of supply are afforded.

The following is a list giving the degrees of hardness for each supply :—

Durham County Water Board

DEGREES OF HARDNESS

average 10 degrees.

Tees Valley Water Board

3.29 temporary

.91 permanent.

Darlington Corporation

varies between 8°—13°.

No waters in the area are known to have plumbo-solvent action.

The proportion of dwelling houses and the proportion of the population supplied from the public main is as follows :—

PARISH	No. of Houses in Parish	Approx. Popu-lation	Water Authority Supplying	Direct to the house	Total houses supplied	% of houses supplied	Pop. supplied direct	Pop. supplied by stand pipe
	Open	Meter	By means of stand pipe	11	11	64.7%	37	—
Archdeacon Newton ..	17	59	Church Commissioners Bulk from T.V.W.B.	—	—	—	—	—
Newton Aycliffe ..	748	2,543	D.C.W.B.	748	748	100%	2,543	—
Aycliffe ..	247	840	D.R.D.C. & D.C.W.B.	174	246	99.6%	639	197
Barmpton ..	27	92	D.R.D.C. Bulk Supply from D'ton Corporation, T.V.W.B.	11	14	51.8%	47	—
Bishopton ..	97	331	Darlington Corporation D.R.D.C.	80	14	—	94	320
Blackwell ..	147	498	T.V.W.B.	122	20	—	142	482
Brafferton ..	50	170	T.V.W.B.	37	4	—	41	140
Great Burdon ..	22	75	D.R.D.C. & D.C.W.B.	17	3	—	20	68
Coatham Mundeville ..	46	152	T.V.W.B.	28	10	—	38	129
High Coniscliffe ..	86	293	T.V.W.B.	64	14	—	78	265
Low Coniscliffe ..	90	303	T.V.W.B.	78	10	—	88	299
Denton ..	20	68	Raby Estates Private Supply	15	—	—	15	51
Low Dinsdale ..	140	478	T.V.W.B.	123	6	—	129	438
East & West Newbiggin ..	9	30	T.V.W.B.	—	3	—	3	—
Great Stainton ..	21	71	D.C.W.B.	8	7	—	15	33.3%
Heighington ..	321	1,095	D.C.W.B.	221	62	10	293	10
Houghton le Side ..	23	78	D.C.W.B.	3	8	—	11	51
Hurworth ..	510	1,736	T.V.W.B.	464	23	—	487	962
Killerby ..	23	78	T.V.W.B.	18	3	—	21	34
Little Stainton ..	16	54	T.V.W.B.	6	9	—	15	37
* Middleton-St.-George ..	556	12,890	T.V.W.B.	516	16	—	532	1,656
Morton Palms ..	15	51	T.V.W.B.	5	7	—	12	—
Neasham ..	100	340	T.V.W.B.	74	7	—	81	71
Piercebridge ..	55	187	T.V.W.B.	43	4	—	47	51
Sadberge ..	164	559	T.V.W.B.	142	17	—	159	2,808
Sockburn ..	10	34	Sockburn Estates	5	—	—	5	—
Summerhouse ..	30	102	T.V.W.B.	28	2	—	30	40
Walworth ..	33	112	Walworth Estates D.C.W.B.	15	7	—	22	275
Whessoe ..	143	486	D.R.D.C. D'ton Corp.	124	8	—	132	159
	3,766	13,805		3,169	292	68	3,529	540
						93.7%	12,759	540
								231

The discrepancy between the Registrar General figures of Population is accounted for by the growth of Newton Aycliffe between June, 1952 and December, 1952.

* Includes 117 R.A.F. Married Quarters.
† Includes H.M. Forces stationed in district.

Improvements

A scheme for supplying the parish of Walworth with water was completed during the year at a total cost of £5,269 (estimate £5,313) providing for the laying of approximately 4,713 yards of 4 in. main and 775 yards of 3 in. water main from Heighington via Cross Lane and West Gate to Walworth. This includes a 4 in. branch approximately 20 yards from The Dog Inn to Burrell Moor and Broom Dykes Farm and 375 yards extra to East Farm.

General

Orders were made by the Durham County Water Board and the Tees Valley Water Board regarding enlarging and altering this area of supply to take in parts of the parishes of Aycliffe, Coatham Mundeville and Brafferton. It is expected that the water supply of Aycliffe, where the Council is at present the statutory undertaker, will be transferred to the Durham County Water Board in the early part of 1953.

Sewerage and Sewage Disposal

AYCLIFFE SEWAGE DISPOSAL WORKS.

Approximately 200,000 gallons per day were dealt with by these Works of which 70,000 gallons were from the new town of Newton Aycliffe and 130,000 from the Trading Estate.

Flow Recorders were fixed on the outfall sewers from the New Town and the Trading Estate at a cost of £385 6s. 10d.

The effluent from the Trading Estate continues to be of a very peculiar character and certain of the premises where small pre-treatment works exist are visited by the Sewage Works Manager so that as far as possible every effort is made to avoid the discharge of acids or other unsatisfactory trade wastes into the Works. In spite of these precautions it has been noted that concrete channels and sills are pitted due to the action of acid. The flow into the Works continues to be excessively high after storm periods indicating that there is a considerable amount of surface water getting into the sewers and infiltration. With regard to the New Town, this is accounted for by the open drain lines under construction but in spite of the co-operation of the North East Trading Estate, little improvement has been observed.

The Council still continues its policy of development of the land adjacent to the Works and towards the back end of the year some 527 trees and shrubs were planted and work was started on the ploughing out of some $4\frac{1}{2}$ acres of marginal land, the estimated cost being £123.

MIDDLETON-ST.-GEORGE SEWAGE WORKS

Approximately 79,000 gallons per day were dealt with by these Works serving Middleton-one-Row, Middleton-St.-George and Fighting Cocks in the parishes of Middleton-St.-George and Low Dinsdale.

The Works comprise a covered sedimentation tank and form of irrigation filter (the sewage is made to flow over shallow filter beds by channels). Sludge beds are provided but there is no means of

dealing with the supernatant liquor from them and the effluent, after passing over the filter beds, is discharged through an open water course to the river. Samples of effluent taken, indicate that it is unsatisfactory by Royal Commission standards although considering the type of Works the effluent is quite good.

Improvements

GREAT STAINTON

No progress was made regarding the completion of this scheme during the year although the contract was let for both the extension of the sewer and the completion of the Sewage Works (tender price £997 0s. 3d.) It is expected that this will be completed during 1953.

REDWORTH

Contracts were let for the provision of a new filter and humus tank at these Works, the effluent from which was causing complaint during the year (tender price £827 18s. 8d.). The work should be completed during 1953.

Proposals

HURWORTH

Considerable complaint has been received regarding these Works which are comprised of sedimentation tank and open irrigation trenches, the latter overflowing into the river. This was largely due to difficulties in dealing with the sludge from the tank which was passing through into the irrigation trenches. The Council's own maintenance staff are to construct new sludge beds next year and to try to improve the irrigation trenches.

It is considered that the Works are overloaded and badly designed and accordingly instructions have been given to the Council's Consultants, Messrs. A. Brooksbank for the preparation of a scheme for new works.

AYCLIFFE

A scheme for the village of Aycliffe, together with the installation of a pumping station to discharge the sewage into the Aycliffe Sewage Disposal Works was approved by the Ministry and a starting date given for November, 1952.

Instructions were received permitting the Council to take tenders for that part of the work concerned with the installation of a pumping station and a rising main to Aycliffe Sewage Disposal Works. This would permit of the completion of the Council's building programme at Aycliffe.

Tenders for £9,124 were received and accepted by the Council. A new recorder is to be fitted on the flow from the village to the Works at an estimated cost of £400.

MIDDLETON-ST.-GEORGE

The Council's consultants, Messrs. A. Brooksbank, submitted their preliminary report early in the year. The Council considered this and were not entirely satisfied and required further information and some amendments.

It is expected that the amended preliminary report will be submitted in 1953.

WHESSOE AND GREAT BURDON.

During the year, negotiations were in progress regarding a draft agreement with the Darlington Corporation in respect of pumping and treatment of sewage for these villages. It is expected that final agreement will be reached early in 1953 when we will be in a position to advise the Ministry and accordingly receive their observations.

The scheme for Whessoe provides for the sewerage of that part of Whessoe known as Harrowgate Village as well as the ribbon development north, and for the construction of a separate system of sewerage to the Corporation Pumping Station.

The scheme for Great Burdon for the construction of sewers, rising main, pumping station with a discharge into the Corporation sewer was delayed on account of negotiations in connection with the draft agreement mentioned above.

It is expected that the schemes will be forwarded to the Ministry in 1953 for their observations.

OTHER VILLAGES.

The Council considered the preliminary reports and estimated costs of schemes for the following villages :

Low Coniscliffe and Merrybent	£16,500
Piercebridge	£ 9,790
Brifferton	£ 5,650
Bishopton	£10,453

and subject to slight amendment indicated their approval.

Later in the year, the Council resolved that :—

1. first priority be given to the sewerage scheme for the village of Aycliffe, the first part of which is to be carried out in 1953.
2. the schemes for Brifferton, Piercebridge, Bishopton, Low Coniscliffe and Merrybent be submitted to the Ministry as soon as the necessary particulars were available, with application for grant aid.
3. the execution of any of the above mentioned schemes or those for the parishes of Whessoe and Great Burdon, which have already been submitted to the Ministry, be reviewed by the Council when the amount of grant aid is known.
4. on submission of the preliminary report for the scheme for Middleton-St.-George, for the Council to consider the advantage of proceeding with the whole scheme or alternatively the provision of new Disposal Works leaving the re-sewering of the village to a later date.

Maintenance of Council Sewage Works and Sewers

The Council carry out the maintenance, repair and cleansing of all sewers and sewage disposal works in the district. The tanks at the sewage works are emptied periodically, filters attended to regularly

and a careful check kept on the type of effluent discharged from the works. The ditches into which the effluent is discharged are cleansed and trimmed once a year.

It was not found necessary to carry out the flushing of sewers during the year, although certain sewers were scraped and all manholes examined.

The Council are responsible for the maintenance, repair and emptying of certain cesspools at Great Burdon, Bishopton, Piercebridge, Whessoe, Middleton-St.-George, Aycliffe, Beacon Hill, Sadberge, Archdeacon Newton and Walworth.

The emptying of cesspools in the past has been done by hand, the top water being drawn off by a centrifugal pump and the sludge removed by buckets into a pan cart. In connection with the latter, a horse is used and the contents of the cart spread on to a nearby field by agreement with the farmer. This has always been a most objectionable type of job for the Council's workmen and towards the end of the year a mechanical gully emptier was hired for the purpose. One of the worst tanks in the area was picked for the purpose, the sludge being exceptionally thick and yet the machine dealt with it without any serious difficulty. Providing reasonable arrangements can be made I am proposing to use this machine during 1953.

All of the work is done by direct labour, the Council employing seven men for the purpose and a Sewage Works Manager at Aycliffe. The cost of this service for the financial year ending 31st March, 1953, was approximately £7,500 which represents approximately 1s. 7d. rate. The cost of the service for the previous year was £6,220, which represents approximately 1s. 5d. rate.

Rivers and Streams (River Pollution Prevention)

It was indicated in my report for 1951, that the River Board Act of 1948 came into force on the 1st October, 1950, and arising out of this new legislation the Wear and Tees River Board was constituted.

The Department has worked very closely with the Board in connection with the preparation of Sewerage and Sewage Disposal schemes and with regard to the necessary action to be taken on receipt of reports on unsatisfactory analysis of effluents from existing works.

The following is a schedule of analysis of samples of sewage works effluents taken by the Board in your area during the year.

SEWAGE DISPOSAL WORKS	ANALYST'S REMARKS	OUR OBSERVATIONS	TAKEN
R.A.F. Station, Middleton-St.-George ..	Unsatisfactory	The Air Ministry were advised that new filter media is to be provided.	24/1/52
Middleton-St.-George Sewage Disposal Works ..	Unsatisfactory	This Works, as indicated previously, is of an old type and the results of the analysis are quite reasonable on this account.	24/1/52
Council House Works, Killerby ..	Unsatisfactory	Repair Works are required in connection with the distribution of the tank effluent on the filters and this was dealt with.	11/2/52
Coatham Mundeville Septic Tank ..	Bad ..	The effluent is bound to vary from the Works as there is no secondary treatment.	
Middleton Hall Mental Hospital, Middleton-St.-George ..	Fair ..	This is a private Works, improvements were carried out sometime previously.	
St. Cuthbert's Hospital, Order of St. John of God, Rockcliffe Park, Hurworth ..	Unsatisfactory	This is an old type of Works requiring considerable improvement.	
R.A.F. Station, Middleton-St.-George .. (F. Site)	Satisfactory ..	—	
Sadberge Sewage Disposal Works ..	Unsatisfactory as regards suspended solids	This is a fairly modern Works but no humus treatment is available. Certain other alterations are required in connection with the village and the whole question of the adequacy of the Works will be considered.	3/3/52
Bishopton Sewage Disposal Works ..	Bad ..	This is an old type of Works entirely inadequate but works in connection with improved methods of distribution of tank effluent are being considered.	17/3/52
Hallgarth, Coatham Mundeville ..	Satisfactory ..	Private Works attached to large residence.	

SEWAGE DISPOSAL WORKS	ANALYST'S REMARKS	OUR OBSERVATIONS	TAKEN
Dinsdale Park School	Unsatisfactory	This is a private Works belonging to the County Council and negotiations have been made for certain improvements.	3/4/52
R.A.F. Station, Middleton-St.-George ..	Satisfactory	Private Works owned by the Air Ministry	18/9/52
Aycliffe Sewage Disposal Works (Trading Estate)	Fair ..	—	18/9/52
Aycliffe Sewage Disposal Works (Durham Road)	Bad ..	On completion of the Aycliffe Sewerage Scheme, this works will be abandoned.	18/9/52
Bishopton Sewage Disposal Works ..	Bad ..	See previous observations.	8/10/52
Aycliffe Mental Hospital ..	Satisfactory ..	—	—
Middleton-St.-George Sewage Disposal Works	Unsatisfactory	See previous observations	2/12/52
R.A.F. Station, F. Site, Middleton-St.-George	Fair ..	—	—
Sadberk Sewage Disposal Works ..	Bad ..	The Attendant's attention has been drawn to this result. It is appreciated as mentioned in the previous analyst's report that apart from difficulty in dealing with suspended solids owing to the absence of humus tanks, this Works should give reasonable effluent.	9/12/52
Redworth Sewage Disposal Works ..	Bad ..	The distributor on the filter is fractured and an improvement scheme was prepared for a new enlarged filter and distributor and humus tanks.	15/12/52

During the period under review no summarised information is available about the quality of rivers and streams within the area of the Board, but the following is a brief resumé from the Board's report regarding the condition of the rivers in our area.

Piercebridge Beck

J. J. GRAHAM (JUBILEE QUARRIES, PIERCEBRIDGE)

As previously reported the drainage from the hoppers has been diverted from the stream to a depression on land near the washing plant. For some time the drainage was successfully absorbed but recently difficulties have arisen and it has been found necessary to pump the hopper drainage into a carrier which conveys the main effluent from the washing plant to a worked out portion of the quarry.

Oil Pollution of the River Skerne

BURNWOOD BECK, MIDDLETON-ST.-GEORGE

Complaint was received regarding oil pollution to this beck, originating from wash-down water used at the Royal Air Force Station, at Middleton-St.-George. Two interceptor tanks were erected to avoid pollution.

RIVER SKERNE

Complaints were received during the year regarding oil pollution of the River Skerne. In all cases they were carefully investigated and action taken to prevent their re-occurrence.

A complaint was received in June about brown colouration in the river and traced. It was found to be due to some unauthorised person having interfered with some tipped material and precautions have been taken against the re-occurrence.

Public Scavenging

During the early part of the year serious delays were experienced in the collection of refuse due to the increased number of houses being built in the area, inclement weather and the incidence of sickness amongst the Council's workmen. The new vehicle costing £1,211 was delivered in September and a new scavenging rota was put into operation.

The following shows the area that each of the vehicles serve and how all refuse is collected once every week.

1. Bedford Vehicle No. 1 (first registered 3rd November, 1946). Operated by driver and two men in the parishes of Bishopton, Great Stainton, Little Stainton, Great Burdon, Barmpton, Heighington and Sadberge.
2. Bedford Vehicle No. 2 (first registered 1st September, 1948). Operated by driver and three men in the parishes of Low Coniscliffe, High Coniscliffe, Piercebridge, Summerhouse, Killerby, Denton, Walworth, Houghton-le-Side, Whessoe, Coatham Mundeville and Brafferton.

3. Bedford Vehicle No. 3 (first registered 15th December, 1948). Operated by driver and two men in the parishes of Middleton-St.-George, Morton Palms, part of Low Dinsdale.
4. Bedford Vehicle No. 4 (first registered 22nd April, 1949). Operated by a driver and three men in the parishes of Hurworth, Neasham, part of Low Dinsdale, Stockburn and Blackwell.
5. Bedford Vehicle No. 5 (first registered 9th September, 1952). Operated by driver and three men in part of the parishes of Aycliffe, Newton Aycliffe and School Aycliffe.

Vehicles Nos. 1, 2 and 5 are garaged on the Aycliffe Trading Estate and Vehicles Nos. 3 and 4 operate from a depot at Middleton-St.-George.

The Council's use of the depot at Middleton-St.-George was the result of an arrangement made many years ago with the County Council who rent a large area of land including the site of our garage. The County Council indicated that they were relinquishing their lease on the land and purchasing a rather smaller area not including our garage site. The Council decided to acquire an area of land approximately two acres upon which the garage for the two refuse vehicles is situated.

Those vehicles at Aycliffe Trading Estate scavenge the northern part of the area and the other two the southern part. The wet refuse from the privy middens, etc., is collected separately and tipped on various farm lands in the district and used as a fertiliser. The dry refuse, including tins and glass are disposed of on one of the tips. The Council have tips at Heighington, Piercebridge, Blackwell and Summerhouse and as far as possible every effort is made to carry out properly controlled tipping.

Difficulties were being experienced in connection with the use of the tip at Heighington for which the Council had no direct lease from the owner. During the year the Council took a lease on the site of the tip from the owner at a rental of £5 per annum for a period of not less than 10 years. In view of the amount of refuse to be collected in the northern part of the area due to the increased population and the trade waste that may have to be dealt with from the Trading Estate, the Council have been seeking another tip in the northern part of the area.

The Council considered various sites and decided to go ahead with the acquisition of one at Brafferton overlooking the railway and river where there were old quarry workings.

The North East Trading Estate who have been dealing with their own refuse from the Trading Estate are also interested with us in the matter.

The Council employs a working foreman to supervise both the scavenging and the sanitary services, and a van is used to get around the district.

During the year the Council purchased a new van to replace the Fordson at a cost of £576. The cost of the scavenging services during the financial year ending 31st March, 1953, was £9,382 representing approximately a rate of 2s. 0d. in the £.

The cost of the services during the previous year was £5,931, representing approximately a rate of 1s. 4d. in the £.

Cesspool Emptying

The Council do not empty private cesspools in their area except in special circumstances when the cost is charged out to the persons concerned.

Public Conveniences

MIDDLETON-ST.-GEORGE

It was not found possible to commence with the erection of a Public Convenience at Middleton-one-Row although it is hoped that the work will start next year.

HURWORTH

Plans for a Public Convenience near the Bridge at Hurworth Place were agreed with the authorities concerned and instructions given to the Architect to proceed with the preparation of a Bill of Quantities.

AYCLIFFE

No further progress was made regarding the Public Convenience at Aycliffe village owing to the absence of sewerage arrangements in the village.

The Council have agreed with the Aycliffe Development Corporation regarding the siting of a public convenience at Newton Aycliffe on Ward "A". The erection of it is well under way.

Closet Accommodation

During the year 11 ash closets and 22 privy middens were converted into water closets under Section 47 of the Public Health Act, 1936. The owners of the property concerned received a grant of £12 10s. 0d. for each conversion.

The Council paid £412 10s. 0d. in grants during the year, an increase of £162 10s. 0d. on the previous year when eight ash closets and 12 privy middens were converted.

The total conversions carried out since the commencement of the voluntary scheme in 1937 is 118 ash closets and 150 privy middens at a total cost to the Council of £2,392 16s. 9d.

Sanitary Inspection

Summary of Inspections and Re-inspections under the Public Health Acts.	No. of Visits	No. of informal notices served	No. of informal notices remedied
Water Supplies	29	25	14
Housing Inspections	121	11	10
Ash Pits and Privy	15	3	1
Water Closets	1	1	1
Drainage	46	3	2
Dangerous Buildings	15	4	2
Moveable Dwellings	7	—	—
Animal Nuisances	1	1	1
Other Nuisances	83	—	—
Totals	318	48	31

No. of General Inspections and Visits

Dairies .. ..	..	..	4
Sewage .. ..	..	..	144
Water Supplies .. ..	..	..	68
Foundations .. ..	..	..	29
Buildings in Course of Erection .. ..	..	..	24
Drains Inspected and tested .. ..	..	..	384
Completed Properties .. ..	..	..	188
Council houses—repairs, etc. .. ..	..	..	69
Food Inspection .. ..	..	..	62
Miscellaneous (Building Licences, etc.) .. ..	..	..	464
Infectious Diseases .. ..	..	..	20
Total ..	1406		

Disinfestation

One building was successfully treated against an infestation of flies.

Plans under the Council's Building Byelaws

The following is a list of plans submitted and approved under the Byelaws during the year :—

1. New houses, bungalows and shops	24
2. Alterations, additions and conversions to houses	48
3. Garages, sheds, etc.	21
4. Agricultural Buildings	17
5. Drainage	4
6. Factories	16
7. Roads and Sewers	3
8. Others	6
Total ..	139

Inspections under Housing Acts

(a) Total number of dwelling houses inspected in detail	957
(b) Number of visits made for the purpose	1,200
Category of houses inspected :—	
No. of dwelling houses fit in all respects ..	248
No. of dwelling houses requiring minor repairs	326
No. of dwelling houses requiring structural alterations or repairs	292
No. of dwelling houses unfit for human habitation	91

Housing Act, 1936

(a) Official representations were made under Section 11 of the above Act with regard to the following houses :—

- 12 houses in the parish of Low Dinsdale.
- 2 houses in the parish of Neasham.
- 1 house in the parish of Low Coniscliffe.

The interested parties were invited to attend before the Council on the 5th January, 1953, when the condition of each of the houses and any offer with respect to the carrying out of works, etc., was to be considered.

(b) The Council decided to press the Owners of empty houses upon which demolition orders had been previously made to carry out demolition works. This affected two houses at Neasham.

Housing Act, 1939—Improvement Grants.

No applications were received under the above Act during the year. There were, however, several enquiries.

Since the Act was introduced there has only been one improvement grant made and that was in connection with a house owned by the Council.

SECTION D.

HOUSING

1. GENERAL INFORMATION

New Dwellings by Private Enterprise

Building licences for the erection of 12 houses at a cost of £24,334 were issued on behalf of the Council during the year, making a total of 68 building licences issued at a total cost of £106,624 since 1945. Building licences for the erection of two houses at a cost of £6,925 were issued by the Ministry of Works during the year, making a total of 20 houses since 1945.

Erection of New Houses

Licences issued by the Council : eight houses were completed by private enterprise during the year, compared with seven during 1951, making a total of 58 since 1945.

Licences issued by the Ministry : two houses were completed by private enterprise during the year making a total of 17 since 1945.

Civil Building Licences

The Council as Licensing Authority issued 18 licences in connection with conversions, repairs and maintenance of houses, etc., amounting to £10,764.

Council Houses

During the year a total of two houses was completed and occupied compared with 45 during 1951, making a total of 197 since 1944. Both were of traditional brick.

<i>Parish</i>	<i>Situation</i>	<i>Type of House</i>	<i>No. erected</i>
Middleton-St.-George	Thorntree Gardens	Trad. Brick	2
		Total ..	2

Plans were approved for new houses as follows :—

12 houses, Norton Crescent, Sadberge.
(amended plan).

35 houses, Highside, Heighington.

COUNCIL BUILDING PROGRESS 1946—1952

PARISH	1946	1947	1948	1949	1950	1951	1952	Totals
Aycliffe	—	—	8	18	—	—	—	26
Bishopton	—	8	—	—	—	—	—	8
Brafferton	—	—	8	—	—	—	—	8
High								
Coniscliffe	—	—	4	—	—	—	—	4
Heighington	—	—	4	—	—	9	—	13
Hurworth	2	20	13	—	—	12	—	47
Middleton-								
St.-George	—	—	8	21	5	22	2	58
Sadberge	—	6	8	9	—	—	—	23
Summerhouse	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	2
Walworth	—	—	—	4	—	—	—	4
	2	34	53	52	5	45	2	193

MOVEABLE DWELLINGS

(a) Licensed Sites.

There is only one licensed site for six moveable dwellings in the area at Burtree Filling Station. The site has been run in a satisfactory manner, refuse being regularly removed from the site by the Council's Service and there is a mains water supply available.

(b) Moveable Dwelling Licences.

The number of licences issued in the area at the end of the year was 10, a decrease of one since the end of 1951.

APPLICATIONS FOR COUNCIL HOUSES — APPLICANTS RESIDING IN THE RURAL AREA

Village where house is required	No. with home of their own	No. without home of their own	AGRICULTURAL WORKERS				WITH HOMES				WITHOUT HOMES			
			No. with home of their own		No. without home of their own	Bedrooms required		Bedrooms required		Bedrooms required		Bedrooms required		
			2	3		3	4	2	3	3	4	3	4	
Aycliffe	19	16	—	—	—	13	4	2	13	3	—	
Bishopton	1	22	1	5	5	12	1	1	19	—	—	
Heighington	16	7	5	5	3	3	3	2	5	3	—	
High Coniscliffe	6	25	1	1	1	15	7	2	22	3	—	
Hurworth	22	1	—	—	1	1	—	1	1	—	—	
Kilnerby	1	39	—	—	1	13	6	1	30	7	2	
Middleton-St.-George	20	11	5	2	8	5	5	—	8	3	—	
Sadberge	13	—	—	—	—	2	1	—	—	3	—	
Summerhouse	—	3	—	—	—	1	—	—	1	—	—	
Whesoe	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Great Stainton	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Totals	102	125	19	9	68	28	6	102	21	2	—	

APPLICANTS RESIDING OUTSIDE THE RURAL AREA

Village where house is required	No. with home of their own	No. without home of their own	AGRICULTURAL WORKERS				WITH HOMES				WITHOUT HOMES			
			No. with home of their own		No. without home of their own	Bedrooms required		Bedrooms required		Bedrooms required		Bedrooms required		
			2	3		3	4	2	3	3	4	3	4	
Aycliffe	4	8	—	—	—	4	—	—	—	8	—	
Bishopton	—	12	—	—	1	3	—	1	—	12	—	
Heighington	4	10	—	—	3	7	1	2	—	10	—	
High Coniscliffe	10	16	—	—	1	8	2	—	—	15	1	
Hurworth	10	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Kilnerby	—	20	—	—	—	—	6	1	—	20	8	
Middleton-St.-George	7	8	—	—	—	9	—	1	—	1	—	
Sadberge	9	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	3	—	
Summerhouse	2	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	
Whesoe	—	1	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	
Great Stainton	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Totals	47	79	6	6	39	6	6	2	78	2	—	

SECTION E.

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD Food and Drugs Act, 1938, and Byelaws made thereunder

It has not been found necessary to take any action under the Council's Byelaws although 62 inspections were made of food premises.

No complaints were received from the public regarding the conditions under which food was prepared or handled, apart from a case occurring with a mobile fish and chip van when the persons concerned were cautioned.

We did, however, receive complaints in two cases of contamination, only one of which originated in the area and this was in connection with granary beetles in puffed wheat. The proprietor of the small firm concerned was cautioned and he was asked to clean up his premises, and on re-inspection everything was found to be in order. The other complaint was dealt with by reference to the Inspector in whose area the commodity was packed.

A complaint was received regarding the condition of un-wrapped bread which was forwarded to the Authority in which the bakery was situated. I would like to mention that under the Byelaws, bakeries cannot be compelled to wrap bread although from a public health point of view it is desirable. The time appears expedient for the Ministry to act in this matter by permitting the alteration of the Byelaws to require all bread to be wrapped.

On the whole the public do appreciate the importance of clean handling and the condition of food when purchased, and in the area there does seem to be co-operation and agreement between the public and the shopkeepers regarding the return of doubtful food. It ought to be mentioned that in most cases the shopkeepers in any case of doubt return foodstuffs to the wholesaler or obtain a certificate from us for condemnation.

During the year nearly all the canteens on the Aycliffe Trading Estate were visited in conjunction with a representative of the Factory Inspector, dealing with canteens. In certain cases there was room for improvement although generally the matters requiring attention were of a minor nature, and in the circumstances it was thought advisable merely to make suggestions for improvements and in some cases caution the owners. In one case where structural defects occurred the owners were written to and asked to carry out alterations.

The following schedule indicates approximately the position regarding food premises in the area.

	Public Houses, Hotels, Inns, Clubs, etc.	Cafes	Butchers' Shops	Fish Shops	General Dealers and Others
(a) Satisfactory in all respects ..	30	6	10	6	38
(b) Satisfactory in all respects except for sanitary accommodation ..	3	1	—	—	1
(c) Satisfactory in all respects except for washing facilities ..	1	—	—	—	2
(d) Satisfactory in all respects except for lighting and ventilation ..	—	—	—	—	—
(e) Satisfactory in all respects except for decoration and minor repairs ..	—	—	—	—	—
(f) Unsatisfactory (under more than one of the above headings) ..	6	—	—	—	4
	40	7	10	6	45

Condemnation of Food

The following foodstuffs were examined and found to be unfit for human consumption :

40 lb. oxtails.
1 x 9 lbs. 12 oz. tin of Shoulder Ham.
1 x 1½ oz. tin of Sild.

Food and Drugs Act, 1938, Section 14

There were no new applications for registration of premises for the preparation or manufacture of sausages or potted, pressed, pickled or preserved food intended for sale. The total number of registered premises was three.

There are no manufacturers of ice cream in the area. Two applications were received for registration of premises for the storage and sale of pre-packed ice cream. One was a business transferred to new premises. The premises were inspected, found to be suitable and registered. The total number of registered premises is now 22.

Milk

There are 29 distributors of milk in the area of whom 27 are producer-retailers, and two are retailers only.

Three distributors have dealer's licences for pasteurised and tuberculin tested milk and one for sterilized. The following supplementary licences were issued to distributors from outside the district.

Tuberculin Tested ..	5
Pasteurised ..	5
Sterilised ..	1

It was not found necessary for the Medical Officer to take any action under the Milk and Dairies Regulations, 1949, regarding prohibition of sale of any milk or directing its heat treatment before sale.

Slaughter Houses—Slaughtering

The Government Scheme of centralised slaughterhouses was continued during the year and all slaughtering for the area was carried out at the Park Lane Slaughterhouse in Darlington.

The six slaughterhouses in the area were used occasionally for the slaughter of "Cottagers' Pigs."

21 renewal licences to slaughter animals were granted during the year.

With regard to the transportation and handling of meat from the abattoir to the butchers' shops in the area, every care is taken to ensure clean handling of unwrapped meat. The porters are required to wear proper overalls and head covering. I understand that there is room for improvement in some of the type of vehicles used, although every effort is being made to provide suitable vehicles where meat can be hung and protected from contamination. For some time now all vehicles have been lined internally so they can be readily washed down.

SECTION F.

FACTORIES ACT 1937 AND 1948

PART I OF THE ACT

1. Inspections for purposes of provisions as to health (including inspections made by Sanitary Inspectors).

PREMISES (1)	Number on Register (3)	Number of		
		Inspec- tions (4)	Written Notices (5)	Occu's. Pr'secuted (6)
(i) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 & 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	22	2	—	—
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authy.	99	29	2	—
(iii) Other Premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-workers' premises)	..	9	9	—
Totals	130	40	2	—

2. Cases in which Defects were found.

(If defects were discovered at the premises on two, three or more separate occasions, they should be reckoned as two, three or more "cases").

	Number of cases in which defects were found				No. of Cases in which prosec'n's were instituted (7)
	Found (3)	Remedied (4)	Referred to H.M. Inspector (5)	Referred by H.M. Inspector (6)	
Want of cleanliness (S.1) ..	—	—	—	—	—
Overcrowding (S.2)	—	—	—	—	—
Unreasonable temperature (S.3)	—	—	—	—	—
Inadequate ventilation (S.4)	—	—	—	—	—
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6) ..	—	—	—	—	—
Sanitary conveniences (S.7)					
(a) Insufficient	2	—	—	2	—
(b) Unsuitable or defective ..	—	—	—	—	—
(c) Not separate for sexes ..	—	—	—	—	—
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to Outwork)	—	*12	—	—	—
Total ..	2	12	—	2	—

There is one Outworker in the district making wearing apparel and there have been no notices served on him.

*Means of Escape in Case of Fire (Certificates).

SECTION G.

MISCELLANEOUS

Rag Flock and other Filling Materials Act and Regulations, 1951

The above Act operated from 1st November, 1951, and is designed to secure the use of clean filling materials in upholstered articles and other articles which are stuffed or lined.

It provides for the registration of premises where any of the prescribed filling materials are used, and for the licensing of premises where they are manufactured.

Authority is given under the Act for samples to be taken to ascertain the cleanliness of the materials used.

The Regulations prescribe the standards of cleanliness for each type of filling material, specify the prescribed analysis for the tests, fees to be charged and form of certificate. They also indicate the form in which records are to be kept by occupiers of premises registered or licensed for the purpose of the Act.

There are no manufacturers in the district but four registered premises where these materials are used.

Complaint regarding breeding of mosquitoes

A complaint of breeding of mosquitoes in low lying land known as the Dog and Gun, Neasham Road, Darlington, was received from the Borough. By arrangement with that Authority the affected area was sprayed.

Prevention of Damage by Pests Act, 1949

During the year the Council's sewers were test baited and treated as recommended by the Ministry.

One sewage disposal works, three refuse tips and four business premises were found to be infested and successfully treated.

Five complaints were received and dealt with regarding rat infestation.

Schools

AYCLIFFE DIAMOND

The conversion of the sanitary arrangements to water carriage was completed during the year.

NEASHAM

I understand that the County are considering the conversion of the closets to water carriage. A scheme is expected to be submitted towards the end of 1953.

DENTON

The small village school has no water carriage system and it is expected that plans will be prepared during next year for the necessary improvements.

GREAT STAINTON

Here the School Managers had been asked to lay on a piped water supply and carry out closet conversions. The School has been taken over by the County Council and I understand that alterations are to be made towards the end of 1953.

BYELAWS IN FORCE IN DISTRICT

Building Byelaws

The Council's Building Byelaws were amended on the 7th April, 1952, to allow for the substitution of 7 ft. 6 in. ceiling heights for 8 ft. The amendment in the Byelaws came into effect as and from 1st August, 1952.

New Streets	9th May, 1938.
Slaughter Houses	1st June, 1938.
Food Handling	8th May, 1950.

Petroleum (Regulation) Act, 1928—36

Seven new and 57 renewals of application for licences to keep petroleum spirit were received during the year.

